



VA Medical Center
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NEWS RELEASE

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Martinsburg VAMC accepting entries in Veterans Creative Arts Festival

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – The Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) is now accepting entries for its Veterans Creative Arts Festival scheduled for March 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“The medical center incorporates creative arts into its recreation therapy program to enhance the rehabilitative environment for all Veteran patients,” said Dawn Johns, recreation assistant. “There are more than 100 categories in performing arts and 51 categories in the visual arts.” Veterans can submit their artistic entries such as painting, photography, drama, creative writing and dance, to compete for a spot in the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival to be held in Durham, North Carolina from October 12 to 19.

The public is invited to the event to enjoy the artwork created by our local Veteran artists. Many of the entries were made in the Martinsburg VAMC Hobby Shop. The Medical Center Director, Timothy J. Cooke, will present awards to the winners during a ceremony beginning at noon.

Veterans must be enrolled in VA health care to enter the contest. The entry deadlines are March 2 for the art category and February 26 for the music, drama, dance and creative writing categories. For more information about the Veterans Creative Arts Festival contact Dawn Johns or Paul Stotler at 304-263-0811, ext. 4594. To learn more about the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival visit www.creativeartsfestival.va.gov.

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Editor’s note: Media interested in photos or Veteran and staff interviews during the event should contact the Public Affairs Office at 304-263-0811, ext. 4013, by noon Tuesday, March 3.